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DCI BRIEFING

16 May 1961

AIR DEFENSE FORCES

- I. The deployment of air defense missiles has proceeded rapidly.
A. We^{have} confirmed 105 additional surface-to-air missile sites since 1 January 1960, and can now identify more than 216 such sites deployed at 49 target areas in the USSR and East Europe.
- B. We believe that many more sites exist, and that within the next year the Soviets will probably complete a basic program to provide missile protection for major cities, industrial installations, power stations, refineries, control centers, and nuclear energy facilities.
- II. The improved surface-to-air missile now being deployed is probably highly effective against medium and high altitude bombers. We have expected the development of a low altitude missile system, but have seen little evidence that development is under way.
- III. The USSR is giving high priority to research and development on defense against ballistic missiles, with a major effort under way near Lake Balkash, at the eastern end of the Kapustin Yar ballistic missile test range.
 - A. The Soviets have evidently been making detailed measurements for about two years, and initial system tests of a Nike Zeus-type of anti-missile missile system could begin at any time.

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- B. The USSR can probably achieve an operational capability with an anti-missile system of undetermined effectiveness in 1963-1966.
 - C. Because of the great impact it would have on the world's impression of Soviet capabilities, we believe the USSR is likely to deploy an anti-missile system in at least a few critical areas even if its effectiveness is limited.
- IV. The anti-missile system now under development could probably be modified for use against satellites with relatively low, established orbits--also in 1963-1966.
- V. Soviet jet fighter strength has been reduced by nearly one-third, but there are still substantial numbers, especially in air defense units.
- A. We estimate the total fighter force at about 7,150 aircraft (including more than 350 new supersonic fighters and about 1,200 fighters with at least some all-weather capabilities).
 - B. Although there will be further reductions as older models are retired, we expect the continued introduction of new models and of improved fighter armament, especially air-to-air missiles, during the early 1960's.

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